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SIPDIS  
BANGKOK FOR AMBASSADOR ERIC G. JOHN FROM ACTING PM A/S FRANK RUGGIERO

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [OPDC](#) [ETTTC](#) [KOMC](#) [TH](#)  
SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE ON BLUE  
LANTERN END-USE CHECKS: THOMAS HINES

¶1. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the outstanding performance of political-military officer Thomas Hines and the foreign service nationals of Embassy Bangkok's political section in supporting the Blue Lantern program. As you know, Blue Lantern is the Department's primary instrument for monitoring the end-use of exported defense articles, technology, and services. This program is indispensable to PM's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls in making informed licensing decisions, discovering illicit supply networks, and deterring diversions of U.S. military articles and technology.

¶2. I am particularly pleased to note that Mr. Hines and his FSN colleagues are receiving this recognition for the second year in a row, continuing Embassy Bangkok's long and proud tradition of extraordinary efforts and results. Mr. Hines and his FSN colleagues have made valuable contributions to strengthening our bilateral defense trade with Thailand, demonstrating dedication and professionalism in efficiently and effectively managing nineteen Blue Lantern cases during the last year. They have expertly engaged government and industry partners on a wide array of issues, navigating often arcane laws and regulations. Their efforts have given PM/DDTC valuable insights into the intricacies of Thailand's firearms industry, laws, and regulations.

¶3. The PM Bureau and the Department are grateful for the efforts of Mr. Hines and his FSN colleagues in Embassy Bangkok's political section, which have demonstrably contributed to the security and integrity of U.S. defense trade.  
CLINTON